(b) if so, whether the allegations have been enquired into and if so, the results thereof;

(c) whether the issue of wheat in the open market has contained the rise in prices of wheat; if not the reasons thereof;

(d) the quantity of wheat issued to the roller flour mills and in the open market from May, 1996 to date in Delhi and in Haryana and the procedure adopted in the sale thereof; and

(e) whether there is any proposal to review the policy of sale of wheat in the open market?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES. CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV): (a) and (b) Some complaints with regard to irregularities allegedly committed by the employees of the Food Corporation of India in the open sale of wheat were received. Complaints, which were of verifiable nature, were investigated. As a result of these investigations, major penalty chargesheets were issued to 3 category-I officers and 4 category-Ill officials. One category-I officer, one category-II officer and 3 category-Ill officials have been placed under suspension. One category-I officer and one category-II officer were shifted to non-sensitive posts, who were found responsible for flouting the instructions issued by the FCI Headquarters.

Besides this, 2 category-II and 2 Category-Ill officials of FCI were arrested by the police and criminal case registered against them. CBI has also registered a RC bearing No. 45/96-CHD dated 4.9.1996 for thorough probe.

(c) The Wholesale Price Index of Wheat (WPI) was 285.4 in March, 1996 and the WPI registered a fall in April and May, 1996. However, thereafter, it began to rise every month and had gone upto 322.5 in September, 19% and 332.2 in October, 1996.

Issue of limited quantity of wheat in open sale did have a sobering effect on prices. However, the market prices of wheat have increased because of lean season and lesser availability of wheat in the market.

(d) The quantity of wheat issued to Roller Flour Mills (RFMs) and in the open market from May, 1996 to October, 1996 in Delhi and Haryana Regions, was as follows:—

(Figures in MT)

| SI. No. | Region | RFMs | Open market (inclusive of stock issued to RFMs) |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Delhi | | 14,050 |
| 2. | Haryana | | 41,860 85,650 |

Till August, 1996 procedure generally followed in selection of purchasers was based on the principle of "first-cum-first-served." Government reviewed the procedure of open sale and issued revised guidelines on 26.8.1996. They include selection of allottees by a Three-Member Committee at the FCI regional level on proper identification of the intending purchasers.

(e) The policy of sale of wheat in the open market is reviewed from time to time and corrective measures are taken as and when considered necessary.

**Beneficiaries under the Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes**

*I56. SHRI SANATAN BISI: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of families benefited under the Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes during the years 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96; and

(b) the details regarding allocation of funds to the State Governments and Union Territories under the Special Component Plan for the years 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI BALWANT SINGH RAMOOWALIA): (a)The number of families benefited is as under:—

(In lakhs)

| Year | No. of SC families benefited |
|---|---|
| 1993-94 | 23.24 |
| 1994-95 | 26.96 |
| 1995-96 | 24.82 |

(b) The details of Special Component Plan allocations are given below:—

(Rs. in crores)

| SI. No. | State/UT | 1993-94 | | | 1994-95 | | | 1995-96 | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | State Plan outlay | SCP out-lay | %of SCP to State Plan outlay | State Plan out-lay | SCP out-lay | %of SCP to State Plan outlay | State Plan out-lay | SCP out-lay | %of SCP to State Plan outlay |
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 1851.00 | 208.77 | 11.28 | 2130.00 | 284.82 | 13.37 | 3159.00 | 314.90 | 9.70 |
| 2. | Assam | 956.16 | 63.84 | 6.68 | 978.83 | 73.33 | 7.49 | 1326.40 | 98.20 | 7.40 |
| 3. | Bihar | 750.00 | 104.00 | 14.89 | 900.00 | 166.69 | 18.52 | 2500.00 | 470.91 | 18.83 |
| 4. | Goa | 170.00 | 2.20 | 1.29 | 182.00 | 4.25 | 2.34 | 210.00 | 2.86 | 1.36 |
| 5. | Gujarat | 1900.00 | 50.43 | 4.23 | 2240.00 | 78.87 | 3.52 | 2610.00 | 97.19 | 3.72 |
| 6. | Haryana | 920.00 | 125.33 | 13.62 | 1025.50 | 142.56 | 13.90 | 1250.00 | 486.37 | 14.91 |
| 7. | Himachal Pradesh | 564.82 | 68.75 | 12.17 | 650.00 | 77.86 | 11.98 | 750.00 | 90.25 | 12.83 |
| 8. | Jammu & Kashmir | 887.25 | 50.94 | 5.74 | 950.00 | 54.83 | 5.77 | 1050.00 | 72.63 | 6.91 |
| 9. | Karnataka | 3025.00 | 280.69 | 9.27 | 2800.00 | 303.81 | 10.85 | 3575.00 | 338.79 | 9.50 |
| 10. | Kerala | 1003.00 | 98.07 | 9.78 | 1260.00 | 126.62 | 10.04 | 1550.00 | 142.00 | 9.16 |
| 11. | Madhya Pradesh | 2400.00 | 271.49 | 11.31 | 2754.00 | 310.78 | 11.28 | 2900.00 | 283.16 | 9.76 |
| 12. | Maharashtra | 3804.00 | 196.60 | 5.17 | 4400.00 | 390.28 | 8.97 | 5500.00 | 550.00 | 10.00 |
| 13. | Manipur | 253.13 | 2.82 | 1.11 | 214.50 | 4.35 | 2.03 | 300.00 | 8.91 | 2.97 |
| 14. | Orissa | 1450.00 | 214.53 | 14.80 | 1950.00 | 148.00 | 7.59 | 1650.00 | 178.57 | 10.82 |
| 15. | Punjab | 1250.00 | 195.00 | 15.60 | 1450.00 | 200.07 | 13.79 | 1675.00 | 200.00 | 11.94 |
| 16. | Rajasthan | 1704.76 | 274.35 | 16.09 | 2450.00 | 389.85 | 15.91 | 3200.00 | 487.17 | 15.22 |
| 17. | Sikkim | 100.12 | 5.96 | 5.95 | 180.54 | 8.40 | 4.67 | 83.29 | 7.15 | 8.58 |
| 18. | Tamil Nadu | 2102.21 | 563.61 | 26.81 | 2750.75 | 523.06 | 19.00 | 3200.00 | 612.25 | 19.30 |
| 19. | Tripura | 310.00 | 39.11 | 12.61 | 290.00 | 25.99 | 8.96 | 350.00 | 37.12 | 10.60 |
| 20. | Uttar Pradesh | 4250.00 | 456.91 | 10.75 | 4763.00 | 492.24 | 10.33 | 5702.00 | 880.74 | 15.40 |
| 21. | West Bengal | 1550.00 | 237.13 | 15.30 | 1706.00 | 174.35 | 10.22 | 2207.30 | 278.15 | 12.60 |
| 22. | Chandigarh | 80.00 | 2.34 | 2.92 | 80.00 | 11.12 | 13.90 | 100.00 | 2.47 | 2.47 |
| 23. | Delhi | 1075.00 | 95.75 | 9.00 | 1560.00 | 140.31 | 9.00 | 1720.00 | 149.79 | 8.71 |
| 24. | Pondicherry | 108.00 | 17.53 | 16.23 | 135.00 | 21.94 | 16.25 | 175.52 | 20.52 | 16.25 |
| | Total | 32464.45 | 3656.15 | 11.26 | 37800.12 | 4154.38 | 18.99 | 46743.51 | 5318.10 | 11.80 |

Details of Special Central Assistance to Special Component Plan Released to the State

Governments and Union Territories are given below:—

(Rs. in lakhs)

| Sl. No. | State/UT | 1993-94 | 1994-95 | 1995-96 |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. | Andhra Pradesh | 2416.06 | 3255.36 | 3425.41 |
| 2. | Assam | 220.51 | 273.34 | 222.55 |
| 3. | Bihar | 2327.11 | - | - |
| 4. | Goa | 2.86 | 3.95 | 2.09 |
| 5. | Gujarat | 796.82 | 956.68 | 278.90 |
| 6. | Haryana | 424.53 | 538.05 | 623.00 |
| 7. | Himachal Pradesh | 699.54 | 195.72 | 193.63 |
| 8. | Jammu & Kashmir | 76.33 | 100.00 | 83.77 |
| 9. | Karnataka | 1282.71 | 1873.76 | 2350.09 |
| 10. | Kerala | 402.84 | 508.81 | 492.73 |
| 11. | Madhya Pradesh | 2803.81 | 2097.57 | 2425.33 |
| 12. | Maharashtra | 1562.79 | 1575.89 | 1745.47 |
| 13. | Manipur | 5.56 | 6.09 | 5.90 |
| 14. | Orissa | 1075.66 | 1332.84 | 1311.82 |
| 15. | Punjab | 875.92 | 1626.72 | 571.68 |
| 16. | Rajasthan | 1829.89 | 887.37 | 1828.26 |
| 17. | Sikkim | 3.06 | 4.22 | 3.57 |
| 18. | Tamil Nadu | 1879.11 | 2655.66 | 2803.55 |
| 19. | Tripura | 58.85 | 100.97 | 72.26 |
| 20. | Uttar Pradesh | 5933.29 | 6297.51 | 5839.03 |
| 21. | West Bengal | 2322.75 | 2813.37 | 2955.22 |
| 22. | Chandigarh | 12.39 | 17.40 | 14.86 |
| 23. | Delhi | 184.76 | 244.42 | 231.16 |
| 24. | Pondicherry | 14.81 | 19.31 | 19:62 |
| | TOTAL | 27211.96 | 27385.00 | 27500.90 |

**Decline in Industrial Production**

157. SHRI ASHOK MITRA: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the rate of industrial production during the first and second quarters of 1996-97 has been lower than in the corresponding quarters in 1995-96 on all fronts;

(b) if the answer to (a) above is in the affirmative, the reason or reasons for the decline in output; and

(c) whether employment in the organised industrial sector has also shown a comparable decline in the current year?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) to (c) As per the latest Index of Industrial Production released by the C.S.O., the overall sectoral growth of Industrial Production in April-July, 1996-97 and the corresponding period in 1995-96 are as follows:—